

(b) E-tendering started in 2010 and has already been implemented for Stores, Track Machine, Cement and Sleepers tenders. E-tendering has also been implemented as pilot project for parcel leasing contracts.

(c) Does not arise.

Growth and role of technical textiles sector

2394. SHRI BAISHNAB PARIDA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Technical Textiles sector;

(b) whether it has shown initial growth and has helped in creation of employment opportunities in the country, if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government proposes to give a good boost to this sector to help in creation of job opportunities, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) Technical Textiles are defined as textile materials and products manufactured primarily for their technical performance and functional properties rather than aesthetic properties and decorative characteristics. These products have a presence in major areas of activity such as aerospace, shipping, sports, agriculture, defence, medicine/ health, manufacturing, etc. Based on their functional requirements and end-use applications, the diverse range of technical textiles are grouped into 12 categories, as listed below:

Geotextiles (Geotech)	Agricultural textiles (Agrotech)	Medical textiles (Meditech)	Protective textiles (Protech)
Industrial textiles (Indutech)	Sports textiles (Sportech)	Clothing textiles (Clothtech)	Construction and building textiles (Buildtech)
Automotive Textiles (Mobiltech)	Ecological protection textiles (Oekotech)	Packaging and containment textiles (Packtech)	Home textiles (Hometech)

(b) The market of technical textiles registered compounded annual rate of growth of 11% during the period from 2007-2012. As per the estimates of the Working Group for the Textiles Industry for the 12th Five Year Plan, the market size of Indian technical

textile industry is expected to grow from INR 76,000 crore in 2012-2013 to INR 1.58 lakh crore by 2016-17, at an anticipated growth rate of 20% year-on-year. As per draft final report on baseline survey of technical textiles in India, the employment in technical textiles industry was 9.89 lakh during the year 2012-13, and is expected to increase to 10.8 lakh in the year 2015-16.

(c) Government has taken number of steps to boost technical textile sector which also helped in generating employment in this sector. The details of various schemes/policy initiatives for the growth of technical textile sector is given in the Statement.

Statement

The details of various schemes/policy initiatives for the growth of technical textile sector is as under:

- (i) Technology Mission on Technical Textiles (TMTT) was launched for a period of five years from 2010-11 to 2014-15 with a total outlay of ₹ 200 crores. Subsequently TMTT has been extended for 2 more years from 2015-16 to 2016-17. Under the scheme, four new Centres of Excellence (CoEs) have been established namely DKTE Society's Textile and Engineering Institute, Ichalkaranji for Non-Wovens, PSG College of Technology, Coimbatore for Indutech, Ahmedabad Textile Industry's Research Association (ATIRA), Ahmedabad for Composites and Wool Research Association, Thane for Sportech. Further four existing CoEs established under Scheme for Growth and Development of Technical Textiles (SGDTT) namely Bombay Textile Research Association (BTRA) for Geotech, Synthetic and Art Silk Mills Research Association (SASMIRA) for Agrotech, Northern India Textile Research Association (NITRA) for Protech and South India Textile Research Association (SITRA) for Meditech are being upgraded. These Centres of Excellence (CoEs) have already started providing service to technical textile industry. The CoE act as a one stop shop for technical textile industry. Further, support is being provided for business start up particularly to MSME sector, buyers seller meets and seminars. Fund support is also being provided to stake holders for contract research and also for participating in international exhibitions on technical textiles. In the extended tenure, additional components like setting up of Focus Incubation Centres to help the potential entrepreneurs to enter into technical textiles, promoting usage of agrotechnical textiles and geotechnical textiles in the country (excluding North East States) have been included.
- (ii) Scheme for Promoting Usage of Agrotexiles in North-Eastern Region : It is a five

year scheme under the 12th five year plan with a total outlay of ₹55 crore. The objective of the scheme is to encourage utilization of Agrotextiles in improving the agriculture, horticulture, floricultural and sericulture produce of the N-E States.

- (iii) Scheme for promoting usage of Geotechnical textiles in North-Eastern Region: It is a five year scheme from 2014-15 to 2018-19 with a total outlay of ₹427 crore. The objective of the scheme is to promote and utilize geotechnical textiles in development of the infrastructure in the NE states by providing technological and financial support for meeting additional costs, if any, due to the usage of geotechnical textiles in existing/ new projects in road, hill/ slope protection and water reservoirs.
- (iv) Major machineries for manufacture of technical textiles has been covered under Revised Restructured Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (RRTUFS).
- (v) Under the Scheme for Integrated Textile Parks (SITP), the Government provides assistance for creation of infrastructure in the parks to the extent of 40% limited to ₹ 40 crore. Technical textile units can also avail benefits under this Scheme.
- (vi) The major machinery for production of technical textiles is covered in the concessional customs duty list of 5%.

Setting up of Common Facility Centres

2395. SHRI AVINASH RAI KHANNA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government plans to set up Common Facility Centres for development of handloom and indigenous textile industry;
- (b) if so, the locations identified therefor along with the details of facilities available in such Centres, State/Union Territory-wise, especially in Punjab; and
- (c) the time-frame by which the said Centres are likely to be functional to enable the handloom industry stay competitive in global market?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR): (a) to (c) Under the Block Level Cluster, a component of National Handloom Development Programme (NHDP) and Comprehensive Handloom Cluster Development Scheme (CHCDS), provision *inter-alia* exists to set up Common Facility Centre (CFC) at an upper cost of ₹ 50.00 lakh. CFC will have facilities for dyeing, warping, winding, training, internet facility, facilitation room, storage room, yarn